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Cc: [Fong, Tera](#); [Holst, Linda](#); [Elkins, Timothy](#); [Johnson, Aaron](#)
Subject: FYI: Minnesota's Class 3&4 Water Quality Standards revisions go on public notice today
Date: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:59:30 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.txt](#)

Good morning!

Minnesota is in the process of revising their Class 3 (Industrial Water Supply) and Class 4 (Agricultural Water Supply) water quality standards. **The proposed changes do not affect Minnesota's Class 4A wild rice sulfate standard.**

The MPCA is proposing several changes within each use classification:

- **Class 3.** The MPCA is proposing to consolidate the three subclasses into one standard. In addition, the numeric standards will be removed while the narrative standard will be retained and updated. Finally, the amended standards will provide clarity around implementation of the narrative standards in discharge permits, including a robust implementation approach that is based on specific site conditions and focuses on water hardness.
- **Class 4.** For Class 4A (irrigation), many of the numeric standards will be removed while the narrative standard will be retained and updated. The amended standards will provide clarity around implementation of the narrative standards in discharge permits, including a robust implementation approach that is based on specific site conditions and focuses on water hardness. For Class 4B (livestock and wildlife drinking), the salinity standard is revised based on current science and common water quality indicators. In addition, there is a sulfate and nitrate standard that will protect livestock and wildlife.

The public hearing on the proposed revisions is scheduled for February 4 and the comment period closes February 24.

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From: Neuschler, Catherine (MPCA) <catherine.neuschler@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:09 AM
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Cc: Elkins, Timothy <elkins.timothy@epa.gov>; Pfeifer, David <pfeifer.david@epa.gov>; Cole, William (MPCA) <william.cole@state.mn.us>
Subject: Minnesota's Class 3&4 Water Quality Standards

Hi Aaron -

The revisions to our Class 3 and Class 4 water quality standards went on public notice today. All of the written materials are available on our website at <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/amendments-water-quality-standards-use-classifications-3-and-4> (scroll down until you see today's date).

There will be a public hearing on February 4, and the comment period will go until 20 days after the public hearing. All the information for the hearing is available on the OAH website.

<https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions/37102-pollution-control-agency-notice-of-hearing-initial-comment-period>, which is where formal comments need to go. Our documents are posted there as well.

If you need us to send you any other documents, or need more information, let us know. Thanks!

Catherine Neuschler | Manager

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